

State of California – The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION



Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report

Pismo State Beach and Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area Public Works Plan

Scoping Period: Wednesday, May 9, 2018 – Saturday, June 9, 2018

DATE: May 9, 2018

TO: Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties

SUBJECT: Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report
Pismo State Beach and Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area
Public Works Plan

LEAD AGENCY: California Department of Parks and Recreation

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) intends to prepare an environmental impact report (EIR), consistent with requirements under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The purpose of the EIR is to evaluate the environmental issues associated with the proposed Pismo State Beach (SB) and Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area (SVRA) Public Works Plan (PWP), including proposed park improvement projects. State Parks will serve as the lead agency under CEQA.

The purpose of this Notice of Preparation (NOP) is to notify agencies, organizations, and individuals that State Parks plans to prepare the EIR and request input on the scope of the environmental analysis. From public agencies, we are inviting comments on the scope and context of the environmental information that is germane to each agency's statutory responsibilities with regard to the proposed project. We are also requesting interested individuals' or organizations' views on the scope of the environmental document.

SCOPING PERIOD

Comments on the scope of the Pismo SB and Oceano Dunes SVRA PWP will be accepted until 5:00 PM on Saturday, June 9, 2018. Please submit comments to:

By Email: info@OceanoDunesPWP.com

By Mail: California Department of Parks and Recreation
Attn: Katie Metraux, Acting OHMVR Planning Manager
1725 23rd Street, Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95816

Written and oral comments will also be accepted at two scoping meetings, at the dates and times listed below.

SCOPING/PLANNING MEETINGS

Dual-purpose public meetings, for EIR scoping and PWP planning, will be held at the following dates and locations:

Date: Tuesday, May 22, 2018

Location: South County Regional Center

Address: 800 W Branch St, Arroyo Grande, CA 93420

Time: 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Date: Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Location: Radisson Hotel Fresno Conference Center

Address: 1055 Van Ness Ave, Fresno, CA 93721

Time: 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

These meetings will offer an opportunity for the public to meet the planning team and learn about the PWP. The public is encouraged to provide input about recreation opportunities and experiences, and goals and guidelines for park operations and programs. The meetings will also serve as scoping meetings for the EIR and attendees will have the opportunity to provide input on the scope and content of the EIR. The two meetings will be identical in format and content. Each meeting will begin with an open house from 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 pm. The planning team will provide a brief presentation about the PWP and EIR at 6:00 p.m., followed by an opportunity for attendees to provide comments.

PROJECT TITLE

Pismo State Beach and Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area Public Works Plan

PROJECT LOCATION

Pismo SB and Oceano Dunes SVRA comprise an approximately 5,500-acre area within the Oceano Dunes District of the California State Park System. Included within Pismo SB are Pismo Dunes Natural Preserve and Pismo Lake. Pismo SB and Oceano Dunes SVRA are located in San Luis Obispo County; approximately 14 miles south of San Luis Obispo (see attached regional map).

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Pismo SB and Oceano Dunes SVRA are managed in compliance with the 1975 General Development Plan. The General Development Plan provides direction and guidance for the park purpose, broad land use planning uses, and program-based goals and guidelines. The General Development Plan predates the California Coastal Act (Coastal Act) of 1976.

The existing Coastal Development Permit (CDP) A-4-82-300-A5, issued in 1982 for the entry kiosks and perimeter fencing projects, has provided direction to Pismo SB and Oceano Dunes SVRA for compliance with the Coastal Act. The 1982 CDP has been amended five times to accommodate additional projects and actions.

The proposed PWP will provide long-term Coastal Act compliance for existing and future park management activities and select improvement projects. The PWP will be consistent with the existing General Development Plan.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

State Parks is preparing a Public Works Plan (PWP) for Pismo State Beach (SB) and Oceano Dunes State Vehicle Recreation Area (SVRA). A PWP is a long-range land use management plan for compliance with the California Coastal Act (Coastal Act) that is reviewed and certified by the California Coastal Commission. The PWP will document existing conditions, consider improvement projects and management programs to improve access for motorized and non-motorized recreation opportunities, and develop policies and programs. The PWP will also include a number of site specific proposed park improvement projects including the following:

1. Project A: Oso Flaco Campground and Public Access Project
2. Project B: Park Corporation Yard Improvement Project
3. Project C: Grover Beach Lodge Site Project (including La Sage Bridge and Dump Relocation)
4. Project D: Oceano Campground Infrastructure Improvement Project
5. Project E: Pier and Grand Avenue Entrances & Pier Avenue Lifeguard Tower Project
6. Project F: North Beach Campground Facility Improvements
7. Project G: Butterfly Grove Public Access Project
8. Project H: Pismo State Beach Boardwalk Project

California Resources Code (14 CCR § 13353) states that PWPs shall contain sufficient information regarding the kind, size, intensity and location of development activity intended to be undertaken including, but not limited to the following where applicable:

- (1) the specific type of activity or activities proposed to be undertaken;
- (2) the maximum and minimum intensity of activity or activities proposed to be undertaken;
- (3) maximum size of facilities proposed to be constructed pursuant to the plan and the proposed timetable for precise definition of all projects included in the plan and any phasing of development activity contemplated;
- (4) the service area for the proposed activity or activities;
- (5) the proposed method of financing the activity or activities;
- (6) the proposed location or alternative locations considered for any development activity or activities to be undertaken pursuant to the proposed plans.

POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

State Parks has determined that the following topics will be included for evaluation in the EIR for the PWP: Aesthetics, Agriculture and Forestry Resources, Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Energy, Geology and Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Mineral Resources, Noise, Population and Housing, Public Services, Recreation, Transportation and Traffic, Tribal Cultural Resources, and Utilities and Service Systems.

INTENDED USE OF THE EIR

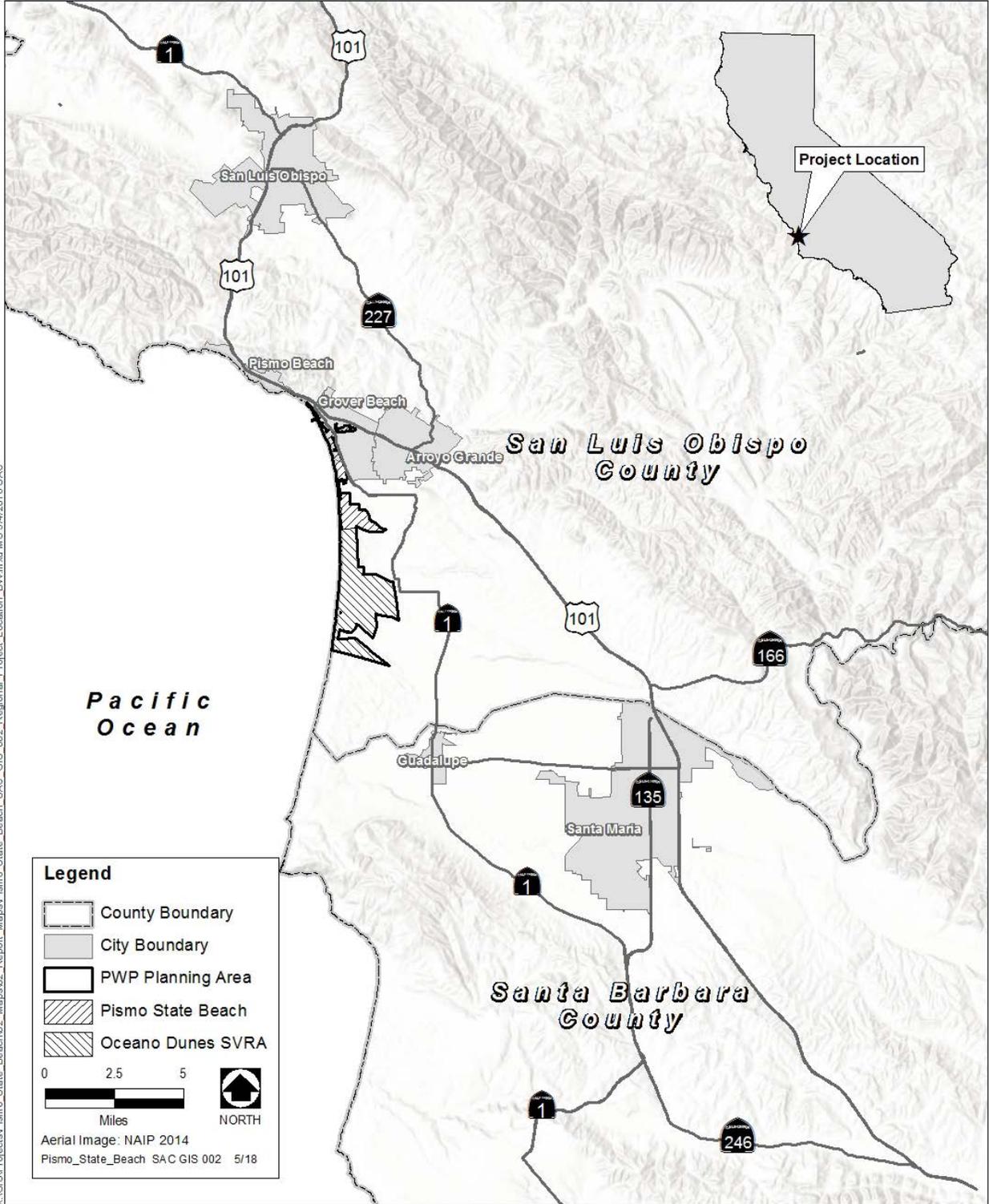
State Parks will use the EIR to consider the environmental effects of the proposed PWP and proposed park improvement projects and, if necessary, develop mitigation measures to reduce potential impacts resulting from PWP implementation. State Parks will also consider a reasonable range of alternatives when reviewing the PWP for approval. The EIR will serve as the CEQA compliance document for adoption of the PWP and implementation of the proposed park improvement projects and will be certified by the lead agency (State Parks) concurrent with PWP approval.

CEQA permits the use of a tiered process for environmental review. The first tier is a program-level analysis which comprehensively reviews the environmental impacts of a program as a whole at a broad conceptual level of analysis including cumulative impacts. Once certified, the EIR will serve as the programmatic environmental document to be referenced for implementation of future actions included in the PWP. It will serve as a first-tier document for the PWP.

The EIR will also include a project-level analysis for the site specific park improvement projects listed above. These projects will be sufficiently designed during the planning process to allow for a detailed analysis and the identification and disclosure of project-level environmental impacts.

Future implementation actions envisioned in the PWP that are found entirely within the scope of the EIR may not require additional environmental review. Those that do require additional review under CEQA may be able to use a streamlined or focused approach to CEQA compliance.

REGIONAL LOCATION MAP



Source: San Luis Obispo GIS; CA State Parks; State of California